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HAHN LOESER & PARKS, LLP
One GOJO Plaza
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AUG 20 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Bennie L. Farmer.	:	
Application No. 10/825,967	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: April 16, 2004	:	UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3)
Attorney Docket No. 116897-29	:	

This is a decision on the renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), filed February 22, 2007, to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C §120 for the benefit of priority to the prior -filed non-provisional applications set forth in the amendment filed concurrently with the instant petition.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is only applicable to those applications filed on, or after, November 29, 2000, and after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

1. the reference required by 35 U.S.C § 120 and 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
2. the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t), and
3. a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Director may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

All of the requirements being met, the petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 is **GRANTED**.

The granting of the petition to accept the delayed benefit claim to the prior-filed application under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) should not be construed as meaning that this application is entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed application. In order for the instant application to be entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed application, all other requirements under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(1) and (a)(2) must be met. Similarly, the fact that the corrected Filing Receipt accompanying this decision on petition includes the prior-filed application should not be construed as meaning that applicant is entitled to the claim for benefit of priority to the prior-filed application noted thereon.

Accordingly, the examiner will, in due course, consider this benefit claim and determine whether the instant application is entitled to the benefit of the earlier filing date.

A corrected Filing Receipt, which includes the priority claim to the prior-filed applications, accompanies this decision on petition.

Any inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to Kenya A. McLaughlin, Petitions Attorney, at (571) 272-3222. All other inquiries concerning either the examination procedures or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.

This matter is being referred to Technology Center 2600, Art Unit 2612 for appropriate action on the amendment filed February 22, 2007, including consideration by the examiner of applicant's entitlement to claim benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 to the prior-filed non-provisional applications.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Pearson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles Pearson
Director
Office of Petitions

Enclosure: Corrected Filing Receipt



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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/825,967	04/16/2004	2612	635	116897.00029	31	5

CONFIRMATION NO. 8225

CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT



OC000000025458819

21324
 HAHN LOESER & PARKS, LLP
 One GOJO Plaza
 Suite 300
 AKRON, OH 44311-1076

Date Mailed: 08/20/2007

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).**

Applicant(s)

Bennie L. Farmer, Ann Arbor, MI;

Power of Attorney:

Edwin Oldham--22003
 Michael Minns--31985
 Scott Oldham--32712
 Mark Watkins--33813
 Richard Gaum--39199

John Cunniff--42451
 Robert Clark--45835
 David Muzilla--50914
 Amanda Wilcox--53772
 Christopher Mitchell--54946

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This appln claims benefit of 60/463,380 04/16/2003
 and is a CIP of 10/690,459 10/20/2003
 which is a CON of 09/638,177 08/11/2000 ABN

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 06/24/2004

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/825,967**

Projected Publication Date: Request for Non-Publication Acknowledged

Non-Publication Request: Yes

Early Publication Request: No

**** SMALL ENTITY ****

Title

AUTOMATED CONSUMER TO BUSINESS ELECTRONIC MARKETPLACE SYSTEM

Preliminary Class

340

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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GRANTED

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